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(c) The Government have no information.

(d) No such appeals have been received.

(e) Does not arise.

Mr. G. PREMAYYA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I know whether the Government are aware that telegrams after telegrams were sent to the Collector and the Labour Commissioner and will the hon. the Home Member call for the information ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes, Sir ; I shall call for the information."

Emigration

Mappillas taken to Andamans.

*230 Q.—MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Mappillas recently taken to the Andamans ;

(b) how many of them are prisoners ; and

(c) how many of them are the wives and children of the prisoners, how many their other relations and dependants, and how many of these are above the age of 50 and how many below the age of ten ?

A.—(a) 399.

(b) 15.

(c) The total number of members of families of convicts sent to Andamans consisted of 40 men, 152 women and 192 children. The Government have no information in regard to the other particulars called for.

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), will the hon. the Member be pleased to say whether among the relations of prisoners there are many who are above the age of 50 ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" We have no information on the subject."

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" Is it a fact that many of them are below the age of ten ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" Is it a fact that they were not allowed to be approached by any persons while they were in Madras and Malabar on their way to Andamans ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no information on the subject."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether the convicts sent to the Andamans have reached the islands ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I suppose so, Sir."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" Are they accommodated ?—have they houses to live in there ? "

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The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I suppose so, Sir."

Mr. K UPPI SAHIB:—"Are they not drenched in the unholy climate of those islands?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have got accommodation there."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—"Is it a fact that the Mappillas and their children are asked to build houses in the Andamans?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think so."

Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA ROWTHER:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), will the hon. the Home Member kindly get further report and place it on the table of the House?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I shall consider the question."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—"With reference to the answer to a supplementary question 'I suppose so', may I ask if, as a matter of fact, these people got houses as soon as they reached the Andamans? Was no accommodation made to receive them properly there?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I ask the hon. Member to realize the value of his words, and answer whether as the Home Member of the Madras Government responsible for persisting in this scheme, in spite of the resolution passed by this House, he satisfied himself before sending 399 unfortunate men, women and children to the Andamans, that there was sufficient and adequate accommodation for them, or whether without satisfying himself and without having any information on the matter he can simply say 'I shall make enquiries'?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Government were satisfied that there was enough accommodation. Since an hon. Member wanted some more information, I said that I would consider the question of getting further information."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"May I ask the hon. Home Member whether he made no attempts to interview the prisoners when they were taken to Andamans, when they were in Madras?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"Why?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There was no occasion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member why there was no occasion to interview these men, when the opinion of this Council was fairly unanimous that the scheme should be abandoned, and whether he did not consider it as part of his duty, for which he is paid handsomely, to go

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and satisfy himself by personal enquiry from his co-religionists whether they were being coerced to go to Andamans or they were going voluntarily ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" On that point I satisfied myself while the Mappillas were here in July 1925."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Does he mean that from the answer which the convicts gave then, he can find out the feelings and opinions of those who went recently ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I did not feel that there was anything wrong."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask on what basis the hon. the Home Member was satisfied that nothing was wrong except on the self-complacency of the bureaucracy that everything is right so long as the bureaucracy itself was right ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice of the question, Sir." (Loud laughter.)

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN SAHIB :—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state, so far as the Mappillas were concerned, whether their deportation has been only voluntary all these years ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am perfectly sure that it is voluntary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN SAHIB :—" Was it so on the last occasion when a number of women and children were sent from Malabar to the Andamans ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, Sir ; it was voluntary on that occasion also."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN SAHIB :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state if a number of Mappilla prisoners from Andamans were sent to Malabar in order to persuade the Mappillas to go to the Andamans ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, persuasion does not mean compulsion."

Number of Mappilla prisoners sent to Andamans.

*231 Q.—MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state how many more Mappilla prisoners the Government propose to send to the Andamans and whether they propose to send any non-Mappilla prisoners ?

A.—It is impossible to state accurately the number of prisoners—both Mappilla and non Mappilla—that are likely to be sent to the Andamans. Those who volunteer to go will be sent to the Islands provided they satisfy the conditions laid down by the Government of India. The scheme is applicable to both Mappilla and non-Mappilla prisoners.

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state how many non-Mappillas were sent to the Andamans up to this time ? "